



THE AL

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# Counsellor

PUBLISHED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS IN THE INTERESTS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Vol. 8 No. 1

EDMONTON, ALBERTA

January, 1963

## MAY THIS BE A GOOD YEAR FOR YOU!

### OFFICIALS REVIEW 1962

#### COOPERATION MUCH APPRECIATED

During the past twelve months, staff of the Department of Municipal Affairs showed a net increase of thirteen to reach a total at year's end of 346 men and women. In their annual reviews for 1962, departmental officials indicate an increased volume of work done and forecast the continuation of busy times for the year ahead. Cooperation received from municipal councils and their secretary-treasurers was much appreciated and is given credit for helping to make 1962 an outstanding year in municipal development.

Comments by Deputy Minister A.W. Morrison and other departmental officials follow:

During the past year progress in the municipal field has been for the most part very gratifying. With better than average economic conditions prevailing throughout most of the Province, assessments, tax payments and reserves, as well as building permits and other indicators of progress all lead to the conclusion that our municipalities are in a generally sound condition. Evidence can be found also of a growing determination to scrutinize expenditures so as to receive full



value for every dollar of the taxpayer's money, and this being true, it is hoped we can look for a slight levelling off in some of our mill rates for 1963.

As in former years it has been my privilege to work closely with the Provincial-Municipal Advisory Committee, and I have been impressed with the diligent manner in which its members have studied the problems of mutual concern to our two levels of government. There is no doubt the studies made are an important contribution to the continued development of this Province.

The Branches of the Department have had another busy year ... evidence of which may be found in the brief summaries to follow.

In any review of this nature the good relations and the spirit of cooperation existing between the Department and local government personnel throughout Alberta must be considered a highlight. Such a happy state of affairs does not just happen; it results from mutual recognition of the need to work together in closest possible harmony.

I want to thank the members of the Department most sincerely for their work throughout the year, and on their behalf I want to thank everyone who has helped make 1962 such a success. May I extend to all the very best wishes for continued progress in the months ahead.

A.W. Morrison,  
Deputy Minister

#### SPECIAL AREAS BOARD

The grazing appraisal of the Special Areas completed in 1961 on a quarter section basis was used in 1962. The lessees not satisfied with the carrying capacity established for their leases had the right of appeal. The appeals were handled by Mr. Campbell of Lands and Forests and Mr. Ken Spread of Municipal Affairs.

We had a good road construction season building some 250 miles of high-grade road. Due to the heavy demand for construction, we gravelled only 86 miles of road in 1962. (To Page 6)

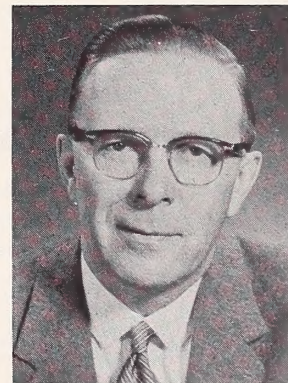
### PREMIER OUTLINES NEW BLUEPRINT

### ALBERTA'S NEXT STEP FORWARD

Blueprint for the continued progress of Alberta in "the years immediately ahead" is outlined in a statement released for publication by Premier Ernest Manning, November 30 last. Described as being supplementary "to the comprehensive five-year development program" which has been underway in Alberta since 1958, the new blueprint covers a broad field of public affairs and represents "Alberta's next big step forward in keeping with the position of leadership to which our Province has attained."

Unlike the earlier program, the new blueprint does not designate major projects for each of five years. Some of the proposals outlined in Mr. Manning's statement, such as the development of a province-wide program of voluntary prepaid medical services, are already underway. Others, like the provision of nursing home facilities for senior citizens, will follow studies to determine "the extent of the need and the manner in which it can best be met."

Special attention will be given to "the vast potential of Northern Alberta" by a Northern Alberta Development Council headed by Hon. Ira McLaughlin, Grande Prairie, whose appointment as Minister without Portfolio was also announced November 30 by the Premier.



Women's interests and "the increasing role of women's organizations in cultural and economic affairs" are recognized in the new program and to this end Hon. Ethel S. Wilson of Edmonton was also appointed Minister without Portfolio. Mrs. Wilson is the first woman to hold Cabinet rank in Alberta since Hon. Irene Parlby held a similar position in 1935.

Premier Manning's statement giving the highlights of the new blueprint follows:

#### NORTHERN DEVELOPMENT

Having regard to the vast potential of Northern Alberta and the importance of its development to the provincial economy, the Government proposes to establish a Northern Alberta Development Council whose function will be to plan, promote, coordinate and advise on practical measures to foster and advance northern development.

The council will consist of four members, two of whom will be chosen from members elected to the Provincial Legislature from the Peace River Block. The third member will be the Deputy Minister of Industry and Development and the fourth will be selected from the business community of the Peace River area.

The Members of the Legislature on the council will serve as chairman and deputy chairman and the chairman will be given the status of a Cabinet Minister without Portfolio to maintain direct and close liaison between the development council and the Government.

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# THE SECOND PAGE . . .

## PRAYER for 1963

Lord, make us instruments of peace.

Where there is hatred, let us sow love.  
Where there is injury, pardon.  
Where there is discord, union.  
Where there is doubt, faith.  
Where there is darkness, light,  
And where there is sadness, joy.

Divine Master, grant that we may not  
so much seek to be consoled, as to console.  
To be understood, as to understand,  
To be loved, as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive,  
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,  
And it is in dying that we are born  
to eternal life.

Amen.

o St. Francis of Assisi

## AULD LANG SYNE

Say 1962 and some of us will think of Banff in June or Roger's Pass in August. And we'll remember those days in October when any two hours might have been our last and the lives of uncountable millions trembled on the unpredictable whim of one man. That's about the way it was. Good days and bad chased each other helter skelter and lickety split. And all through the year, the rising and setting of the sun that measures each day continued unknowing and undisturbed.



But there were many things that made memorable the days of 1962. Take the weather of autumn. Apart from that early nip in September, it was never better. Take field crops and fodder. True, these could have done without the frost, but even with it, farmyards are fat and incomes gratifying. Nearly everybody except the unemployables made (in a manner of speaking) money.

This past year may be remembered by some for the trend to high-rise apartments ... or the usual pressures on school costs. The boxing world crowned a new champion and fog in Toronto divided the Grey Cup game (unlike Gaul) into two parts. No doubt there were those who had trouble remembering their anniversaries and others who tried diligently to ignore their birthdays.

In 1962 chances are our outgo reached an all-time high. But so, probably, did our income. Cost of living rose from 129.7 points in January to 131.0 just nine months later. This was an all-time high too, but it's less alarming to think of it as a rise of 1.3 points in the period. Whatever "points" are. More alarming perhaps was the sudden devaluation of our worldly wealth. This was felt by all but understood by a few and will undoubtedly bear the blame for many things ... including a bullish trend noticeable particularly in the zipperskin market.

Some of us tried to slow the swift passing of moments comprising 1962 while others (a little younger) stepped impatiently on the heels of time to see what lay ahead. Neither group were very successful.

Any given number of targets were hit during the year; but many were missed, not only because of incompetence but also because they were too far away or set too high. If we didn't quite make it, whatever the reason, we've got to keep on trying ... because nobody is a real failure until he gives up.

Totalling the score, we're all richer for 1962, if not in money, then certainly in experience and friendships and understanding. As we head into the new year, let's be glad we're still here. Let's be glad for whatever measure of health and strength and wit we enjoy. Let's be glad for the changeless order of important things and for undimmed hopes and aspirations even in the lives of our children's children.

Let's just be glad.

## CALGARY POWER SERIES

Calgary Power Limited is to be commended for its series of announcements entitled "Alberta Junior Citizen Award Winner" now running in Alberta's weekly newspapers. They're four-column displays and each features the picture of a fine looking young person with highlights to date of his or her career. The Company acknowledges the cooperation of local citizens in various parts of the Province and the active participation of the weekly newspaper editors whose enthusiasm, it says, has made the program possible.

Anyone worried by the kind of publicity so often given some of our junior citizens will share this enthusiasm. Junior citizens soon grow older, and it is good to be reminded that the new generation contains worthy citizen material too.

We are particularly pleased to present in this first issue for a new year the likeness and times of Judith Walters ... an Alberta Junior Citizen Award Winner. Judith is a member of the Felger Colony, Hutterite Brethern of Lethbridge. It only remains for us to add our congratulations to those already offered her. Members of Judith's faith can be proud of her record. So can we all.

For the Judith Walters Story ... see below.

\* \* \* \*

## ALBERTA JUNIOR CITIZEN AWARD WINNER

Judith won her award for the unique contribution she made in the field of social integration. By word and deed she proved to members of her colony and to non-Hutterites, that it is possible to retain the traditional dress and customs that are integral to your profoundest beliefs, yet become a popular public school student.



JUDITH WALTERS

In the fall of 1961, Judith had to make a decision. Their colony school had to close. She had no alternative but to attend the large Kate Andrews Senior High School in Coaldale. Could Judith face these students fifteen miles from home—would they accept her in her traditional clothing? She was not worried about her school work for she had always been a good student. Judith with her quiet friendliness and understanding made a real place for herself at Kate Andrews. She modeled clothes she had made and acted as commentator at school fashion shows. She was the stenographer responsible for putting together the school year book. She sang in the school Glee Club. She passed her Grade 12 in one year and obtained a matriculation standing.

Judith is now attending Lethbridge Junior College where she is enrolled in Education.

Judith has led the way for other members of her colony to continue their education in public schools. For her great contribution in the cause of social integration, we thank you Judith on behalf of all Albertans.

## THIS MONTH

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### THE ALBERTA MUNICIPAL COUNSELLOR

Published monthly by the Department of Municipal Affairs, Government of Alberta, for better understanding between persons engaged in the various aspects of local government within the Province. Contents may be reprinted without restriction but a credit line is appreciated. Articles and information about the municipal scene are welcomed and the publication will be mailed without charge upon request. Address enquiries to

The Alberta Municipal Counsellor  
Department of Municipal Affairs  
Edmonton, Alberta





# THE AGRICULTURAL

# REHABILITATION & DEVELOPMENT ACT

BY G.R. STERLING, COORDINATOR\*  
OF ARDA FOR ALBERTA

\* (Mr. Sterling is also Chairman of the Soil Conservation and Land Utilization Committee of the Department of Agriculture)

The Agricultural Rehabilitation and Development Act is a Dominion Statute, passed by Parliament somewhat over a year ago. This Act was brought into being to assist rural development and to attempt to enhance the incomes and living conditions of those resident in rural and urban areas throughout Canada. The Act is set up on a basis which will entail local, provincial and federal cooperation on projects which will be devised to assist the development of local areas. It is very wide in scope and will allow for many different types of projects throughout the nation.

The Agricultural Rehabilitation and Development Act generally stipulates four general types of activities which may be conducted in rural areas:

(1) Projects for the alternate use of land. This will include projects on lands which are generally not suited for agricultural purposes and which may and should be used for other purposes, such as forestry, recreation, grass, etc. It is planned that these areas will be given detailed study and the Land Utilization Committee or the ARDA Committee will recommend a proper use for them. If, and when, money is available these lands will then be developed along the lines recommended. It may mean the purchasing of lands in certain areas. It is generally anticipated that some assistance will be given to those who will be moved off of such areas in order that they may establish themselves in other vocations or better farming locations.

(2) The Act calls for research and investigation regarding a more effective use in economic development of areas. Considerable study may have to be done in certain areas or, in some cases, relatively large communities to determine what programs should be instituted in order to give the most economic returns to the area. In some cases, this may involve detailed research for a considerable period of time.

(3) The Act allows for soil and water conservation projects. These projects would be those which would conserve the two natural resources for future use and at the same time allow them to be used judiciously and wisely by the present generation. Such projects would include the storage of irrigation water and stock water in areas where it can be adequately used for either or both of these purposes. It would also include projects which would ensure stability to the soil and would arrest or stop further wind or water erosion. Research and investigations applicable to soil and water conservation may also be undertaken.

(4) The Act anticipates rural development projects. Such projects will entail the whole economy of a particular area. Projects may be undertaken in the form of developing new or existing industries, further development of present or new crops for the area, recreational development, or any other programs which will generally assist the economy of the whole area. It is generally anticipated that this activity will first be carried on in areas which are presently underdeveloped because of many reasons, such as type of soil, the past economy of the area, or changes in the economy of the area.

## COOPERATION CALLED FOR

As mentioned, the Act calls for cooperation of the Dominion and Provincial Governments. This particular type of cooperative effort will be handled by means of agreements between the various provinces and federal government. The Federal Government has appointed A.T. Davidson as the Federal Co-ordinator of ARDA. He and his staff are at present preparing agreements under which the various provinces may initiate and develop projects. As of October 23, the general agreement with the Federal Government and the Province of Alberta has been signed but five secondary agreements covering (1) community pastures, (2) projects for alternate land use, (3) rural development areas, (4) soil and water conservation projects, and (5) research and investigation are still to be prepared and forwarded by the federal authorities.

The general agreement which has been signed stipulates that projects may be carried out as and when federal funds are appropriated by Parliament. At the moment \$50,000,000 of federal funds have been set aside for the purpose, an amount considered adequate to get many important projects underway across Canada.

A Plan for Rural Re-Development Involving Federal, Provincial and Municipal Government Cooperation

The Province of Alberta has appointed the writer as Co-ordinator of ARDA for the Province, along with a committee consisting of the following:

Dr. V.A. Wood, Director of Lands, Department of Lands and Forests; A.W. Morrison, Deputy Minister, Department of Municipal Affairs; F.L. Grindley, Director of Water Resources, Department of Agriculture; A.M. Wilson, Field Crops Commissioner, Department of Agriculture; J.G. McGregor, Chairman, Alberta Power Commission; Dr. J.A. Toogood, Professor of Soil Science, University of Alberta; E.S. Huestis, Director of Forestry, Department of Lands and Forests; W.A. Lobay, Supervisor, Soil and Weed Control, Department of Agriculture; W.G. Brese, Bureau of Statistics, Department of Industry and Development; Curt P. Smith, Director of Fish and Wildlife, Department of Lands and Forests; Dr. G.R. Purnell, Director, Farm Economics Branch, Department of Agriculture.

Several requests have been received by the Committee from local people but as yet it has not been in a position actively to commence programs in the various areas. It is hoped that some projects may be started shortly; that is, as soon as the five secondary agreements listed above have been completed and signed with federal ARDA authorities.

\* \* \* \* \*

## ... NOVEMBER NEWS REPORT

## ARDA PROJECTS APPROVED

Approval of the first two projects under the long range Agricultural Rehabilitation and Development Act program was announced in November by Agriculture Minister Alvin Hamilton.

The projects approved include assistance for comprehensive studies of the agricultural future of Manitoba and for a large expansion in woodlot management assistance in New Brunswick. These projects, according to the Minister, will materially assist farmers of both provinces in their future development and in obtaining a higher cash income for their efforts.

The ARDA program, which will carry out the government's policy for the study and re-development of rural areas in Canada, was introduced in the House of Commons in 1961 by the Minister.

It is hoped that a substantial number of these projects will be under way by Christmas this year, Mr. Hamilton said, pointing out that approximately 20 are now being processed.

In New Brunswick, the federal government will assist the province in nearly doubling its program of advisory services to farmers in woodlot management. Under this program, farmers in all parts of the province are provided with competent technical assistance in the management of woodlot areas. They are shown how these wooded areas can be farmed for the maximum financial return.

In Manitoba, federal assistance will provide funds for such detailed studies as: Investigation of the primary agricultural industry in the province; investigation of the food, beverage, and other agricultural products industries; investigation of the water resources of Manitoba; investigation of the commercial fishing industry, as well as the outdoor recreational resources and recreational land and water use.

\* \* \* \* \*

## ALTERNATIVE LAND USE ...

## BACKGROUND OF ARDA

ARDA, the federal Agricultural Rehabilitation and Development Act, sprung from the conviction of a great many people that rural Canada is in need of assistance in development or re-development or renewal.

Great technological and economic changes have taken place in the last few decades affecting rural living and farming. Many of these changes, although good in themselves, adversely affected large sections of rural people, and the management of rural resources. They



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## ALBERTA'S NEXT BIG STEP FORWARD . . .

(From Page 1)

The office of the Northern Alberta Development Council will be located at Grande Prairie and will be staffed by a full-time development director and such additional assistance as may be necessary.

### LAW ENFORCEMENT

The rapid increase in Alberta's population, and the growth of urban communities in particular, is creating a serious problem of law enforcement for local authorities. As a practical step to assist in meeting this problem, the Government proposes to organize a province-wide force of qualified law enforcement officers from which trained personnel will be made available under contract to towns, villages, counties and rural municipalities, desirous of entering into such agreements.

The program will permit recruitment, training, equipment, seniority and pension benefits to be standardized on a province-wide basis and will enable the force to attract high calibre personnel and ensure a uniformly high standard of closely coordinated law enforcement. Each local detachment will have the benefit of direct liaison with the province-wide organization and the advantage of being able to draw on its collective information, experience and cooperation.

The nucleus of the provincial force not under contract to local authorities will replace the present Provincial Inspection Force which will be absorbed into the new province-wide organization.

Priority of employment opportunities will be given to qualified members of existing local police forces who can meet the required standards.

The program will in no way alter the existing arrangement for the policing of the Province by the R.C.M.P. nor will it affect in any way the urban police forces in the major cities. Close liaison and cooperation with both the R.C.M.P. and City Police Forces will be a natural objective of the new provincial law enforcement organization.

### REHABILITATION

A re-organization of the administration of Provincial Penal Institutions will be carried out with a view to improving their effectiveness in the field of correction and rehabilitation. Courses of training will be instituted for prison staff and chaplain and counselling services provided for inmates.

A custodial farm and rehabilitation centre will be established for alcoholics convicted of minor offences. The facilities of the Belmont Institution will be made available for the scientific treatment and rehabilitation of alcoholics who voluntarily seek such assistance or who are referred to the centre by medical practitioners or the courts.

### PREPAID MEDICAL SERVICES

Steps currently are under way to develop, in cooperation with the medical profession, a province-wide program of voluntary prepaid medical services to enable citizens to protect themselves against the risk of medical costs beyond their ability to pay.

This program will recognize the three basic factors which the Government regards as fundamental:

- (a) The doctor-patient relationship necessary for a high standard of medical services will be preserved inviolate and free from any form of state regimentation.
- (b) The responsibility of society to make it possible for every citizen to obtain medical services when required irrespective of income will be recognized together with the right of each individual citizen to decide whether or not he wishes to participate in the program by which the state discharges its responsibility in this field.
- (c) The principle of personal financial responsibility for medical services will be preserved within a framework of state assistance adequate to protect every participating citizen against financial liabilities in excess of his ability to meet without impairing the economic security of himself and his dependents.

### NURSING HOMES

In the matter of providing nursing home facilities for senior citizens requiring custodial care, a study will be undertaken to ascertain the extent of the need and the manner in which it can best be met.

It will be the Government's intention to coordinate private and

public facilities in this field to assure adequate accommodation and nursing care for those whose physical condition is such that they cannot use the facilities of the senior citizens' homes or qualify for admission to a chronic hospital under the terms of the Federal-Provincial Hospitalization Agreement.

### ALBERTA INVESTMENT FUND

To encourage and facilitate greater participation in the economic growth and industrial development of Alberta by the people of the Province a provincial investment fund will be established within the Treasury Branch system to enable individual citizens and Alberta companies to channel investment funds into sound local development projects. This investment fund will be guaranteed by the Province as to principal and a minimum rate of return with the investors participating on a pro rata basis in such additional earnings as accrue from the operation of the fund.

As an adjunct to this provision, an accelerated program of industrial promotion will be undertaken and a new division will be established within the Department of Industry and Development to provide business analyses data and management counsel to new local industries.

### EDUCATION

In the firm belief that expenditures for education are a sound investment in the youth and future of our Province, the Government will provide a \$500,000,000 program for education during the next five years to ensure that the high standards already achieved by elementary and secondary schools and the University of Alberta will be maintained and enhanced.

All practical measures to assist school authorities in financing their operations will be fully explored with a view to securing maximum value for every dollar invested in the education of our children, and school boards will be given an opportunity to increase their autonomy by accepting more responsibilities along with additional privileges and greater freedom of action.

The Government's school program will make provision for substantial new construction projects at the University in both Edmonton and Calgary to keep pace with the rapid increase in enrolment. Maximum use will be made of the very extensive new facilities for technical and vocational training now being constructed in many communities throughout the Province by school authorities and the Department of Education.

### PUBLIC EXPENDITURES

Having regard to the public concern engendered by steadily rising public expenditures resulting in an ever-increasing burden of taxation and debt, the Government proposes to invite representatives of municipal government, school administration, business, agriculture and labor to join in a factual study of public expenditures and the manner in which they can best be controlled and financed having regard to the legitimate needs and best interests of the people of the Province as a whole.

Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, this study will include:

- (a) A survey of current and projected provincial and municipal public expenditures to determine the extent to which they are necessary and justified, having regard to all the factors involved.
- (b) An analysis of the various categories of public services and expenditures to determine the ways and means by which they can best be controlled and the order of priority to which they properly should be assigned.
- (c) An examination of the incidence of taxation and other revenue sources to determine the most equitable methods of obtaining the revenues required to finance necessary public expenditures.

Every effort will be made to familiarize the public with the findings of these studies to the end that the people themselves can intelli-

### FOR CONTINUED PROGRESS

The Province of Alberta today enjoys a position of leadership and a record of achievement unsurpassed elsewhere in Canada. Our economy and social structure is established on strong and enduring foundations and our people can look forward with confidence to a future of continued progress and development.

o Premier Manning



## "A NEW BLUEPRINT FOR THE YEARS IMMEDIATELY AHEAD"

gently appraise the issues involved and give wise direction to their elected representatives charged with the responsibility of implementing the public will.

### AGRICULTURE

The Government is prepared to provide a Veterinary College in Alberta, provided satisfactory arrangements for the equitable sharing of capital and operating costs can be negotiated with the Federal Government and the other provinces, whose students would be accommodated at the college. Such participation is regarded as reasonable and warranted in that the college will serve the needs of all Western Canada in this important field.

The Government will undertake a factual study of all pertinent factors involved in an over-all program of crop insurance to determine the economic feasibility of such a program and the practical problems involved in its implementation.

To better ensure that the just rights of surface owners of land affected by the development of oil and natural gas are fully respected and protected, a new inspection division for this purpose will be established within the Department of Mines and Minerals.

Inspection of well sites, pipeline rights-of-way and other installations will be made by qualified personnel and rigid requirements will be enforced to ensure that all surface owners affected are justly treated and fairly compensated by those empowered to enter on their land for mineral development or activities associated therewith.

Statutory enactments to facilitate the effective implementation of this program will be introduced at the next session of the Legislature.

### HIGHWAYS AND ROADS

To further enlarge and improve Alberta's extensive network of all-weather highways and district roads, a major program of new construction has been prepared.

This program, which anticipates the Province's requirements in this field for the next five to seven years, will include:

- (a) The construction of more than a thousand miles of new highway grade;
- (b) The application of more than a thousand miles of base course and surfacing and the construction of some 150 additional miles of multi-lane highway;
- (c) The construction of some 200 miles of development highway in the northern part of the Province, including a road to Fort McMurray and a road from High Level to Wood Buffalo Park;
- (d) The improvement of major arterial highways leading into large cities involving multi-lanes and separation structures;
- (e) The elimination of another 14 ferries through the construction of bridges strategically placed to handle the traffic;
- (f) The construction of more than 200 major structures and bridges on main highways and district roads;
- (g) The construction of more than 1,000 standard type bridges on district and local roads in counties, municipalities, local improvement districts and special areas;
- (h) The expenditure of more than six million dollars to construct arterial by-passes and to erect new structures in cities;
- (i) Assistance to rural municipalities in the construction of some 15,000 miles of new grade and the gravelling of some 15,000 miles of district and local roads;
- (j) The construction of more than 1,000 miles of trunk roads in rural areas by means of contingency grants;
- (k) The building of approach roads from highways to the limits of towns and villages will be continued;
- (l) Continued emphasis will be given to the factor of safety in designing highways, including the construction of grade separation structures for both road and rail traffic.

### COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENTS AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

As a sequence to the assistance provided rural and urban communities for the development of local recreational facilities and other civic improvements under the five-year program, a new program for this purpose embodying a wider range of projects will be implemented.

Greater flexibility will be introduced into the formulae for the distribution of such assistance to enable rural and urban joint projects to qualify and to meet the practical requirements of population increases, changing social patterns and modern forms of community life and interests.

Additional recreational facilities will be provided by the continued creation and improvement of provincial community parks.

### PROTECTION AGAINST EXPLOITATION

Steps will be taken to afford the people of Alberta greater protection against being unknowingly exploited by excessive interest rates or carrying charges when purchasing goods or services under deferred payment plans or borrowing money from finance corporations under contracts providing for repayment by installments.

To this end, the Government proposes to require that contracts under which such obligations are assumed make full disclosure to the purchaser or borrower of the interest rate and total amount of interest and other service charges involved.

### YOUTH

A comprehensive program will be undertaken to enhance the status of youth and encourage and assist young men and women to develop and use their latent abilities, talents and qualities of leadership.

Special emphasis will be placed on 4-H Club activities, urban community youth organizations and leadership training courses.

### WOMEN'S INTERESTS

Having regard to the increasing role women and women's organizations are playing in cultural and economic affairs, it is desirable and appropriate that this fact be officially recognized in the composition of the Executive Council of the Provincial Government.

Accordingly, a woman member of the Legislature will be appointed to the Cabinet as a Minister without Portfolio to represent the viewpoint of women in the councils of government.

### A WORKING DEMOCRACY

In a sincere effort to maintain the closest possible liaison between the people and their Government and make Alberta the model Province in Canada from the standpoint of genuine democracy working at its best, the Government proposes to increase the use of advisory councils in a wider range of matters of public concern and establish community liaison committees as channels of communication between the people and their Government.

Non-political seminars for full and frank discussion of government policies and programs and of ways and means by which they can be improved will be held periodically at widely-scattered points to afford the largest possible number of people an opportunity to participate.

Committees of provincial cabinet ministers will visit key centres throughout the Province to hear representations and discuss matters of local interest and concern.

### LEGACY

A new year is a magic chest,  
Untold wealth is in it;  
A golden chain of precious hours—  
Every link a minute.

Tears and laughter, sadness, song—  
Jewelled gems that lend  
Richness to the legacy—  
Ours to keep or spend.

A new year is a magic chest;  
The gift of time is in it.  
So guard it well, and do not lose  
One precious, golden minute.

o Rachel Van Creme



OFFICIALS REVIEW 1962  
(From Page 1)

In 1962 the Special Areas were very dry until early July. Over most of the area we received heavy rains in the latter part of July and August. The oat and barley crops made a good recovery and we have a reasonably good supply of these feeds. Hay crops were light and grade of wheat was low.



The heavy rains provided run-off for dams, dugouts and sloughs, and good grass over most of the area. We have a better range condition than we have had for several years.

The Community pastures accommodated some 6,000 head of cattle, and showed a small profit from the year's operation. We have a fair carry-over of grass in the pastures and should be able to carry to capacity in 1963.

The Agriculture Service Board operated for the first time in 1962 and provided a needed service to our ratepayers.

Two Farm Purchase Boards operated again in the Special Areas during 1962 and both had a busy year.

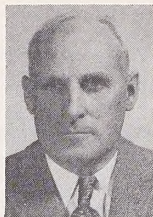
Since some 60 per cent of our area is comprised of grazing lease lands, in future it is expected that a grazing appraiser with range management experience will be required.

o C.W. Edwards, Chairman,  
Special Areas Board, Hanna

\* \* \* \*

ASSESSMENT COMMISSION

The fiscal year 1962 saw the continuation of the never-ending task related to the production and maintenance of the Provincial Assessment Manual, as well as guidance in the interpretation thereof. Requests for assistance in the assessment of perplexing types of real estate also required considerable attention.



In addition to the usual supervision and appraisal duties, assessment inspections were carried out and reports submitted in respect of some fifty urban and two rural municipalities wherein re-assessment took place during the period 1961-1962.

A member of this Branch was also appointed to the Board established for the purpose of investigating those lands affected by grazing lease appeals.

Other highlights worthy of note concerned contributions by Branch personnel to programs represented by the inaugural meeting of the Alberta Assessors' Association and a seminar on assessment administration under the auspices of the Calgary Branch, Canadian Appraisal Institute. It seems apparent that meetings of this nature can be expected to spark an ever-increasing interest amongst all those involved in matters pertaining to property assessment.

o J.B. Laidlaw,  
Assessment Commissioner

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ASSESSMENT EQUALIZATION BOARD

During the year 1962, the Assessment Equalization Board established equalized assessments in respect of all municipalities in the Province. On behalf of secretary-treasurers the Board also assumed the function of apportioning the equalized assessment of each municipality amongst the several school districts or divisions and hospital districts to which the municipality concerned might be required to provide such information.



Equalized assessment, as determined by the Board, represented the total assessment of a municipality adjusted to a degree required to reflect assessments of that municipality on a common basis with those of all other municipalities in the Province.

It continues to be the objective of the Board to improve the procedure employed in the equalization of assessments in order to ensure the greatest amount of equity. With this in mind the Board study of assessment/sales ratio analysis conducted by the research staff has been intensified and reports are now available with respect to some eighty municipalities throughout the Province.

The program mentioned heretofore could very well be completed during the next three years, provided municipal assessors can be prevailed upon to take a more active part in the analyzation of property

sales consummated within their respective municipalities.

o R.L. Cross, Secretary-Member,  
Alberta Assessment Equalization Board

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ALBERTA ASSESSMENT APPEAL BOARD

As we bid goodbye to 1962, any regrets we may have must be tempered by the knowledge that it has been a good year; the work of the Department has maintained a high standard and our relations with (To Page 7)

BACKGROUND of ARDA  
(From Page 3)

have resulted in low incomes in many rural areas in comparison with national incomes, people stranded in uneconomic ways of life, a surplus of people in some parts of the farming industry in terms of gainful employment, poor land and water use, wasted resources—both physical and human.

COORDINATED ATTACK

It was believed that a coordinated program of rural development could achieve great results in increasing the productivity of our rural areas, in improving the relationship between people and the land, in promoting the best use of land, and in increasing income and employment opportunities.

Although the programs differ, there is much in common in the approach of regional economic development program and of ARDA. One of the basic principles of most regional development groups is that the program must be so broad in its scope and so flexible in its application that it can be adapted to meet the needs of all the regions with their widely differing characteristics.

The ARDA programs are to be carried out through joint federal-provincial agreements and with local people taking an active part. The Federal Government is empowered under the Act, in addition, to undertake research by itself or jointly with the provinces.

The first major program proposed is a program for the alternative use of marginal lands. These are lands which are not now economically feasible to cultivate and probably will not be in the future. It does not pay to cultivate them. Economic studies all across the country have shown the waste of capital and resources and human effort, and the social costs of trying to eke out a living on such lands through regular farming systems.

Study has also shown, however, that there is a growing demand for these lands for grazing to meet our expanding beef markets; for tree production to produce competitively priced tree fibre; for re-creation and wildlife purposes, to serve the burgeoning urban populations; and even for urban and industrial growth. Much more research is needed to determine how much land it would be economic to dedicate to these purposes and in what specific areas, and how much of the better lands must be retained in cultivation.

BETTER PRODUCTIVITY

The second major part of the program has to do with projects aimed at increasing the productivity of good agricultural lands, where capital investments to increase efficiency for crop production will pay; and in addition, with the development and conservation of water in rural areas.

The third major program in the Act, and by far the most far-reaching, is concerned with the entire complex of rural economic development—with both rural people and resources. This comprehensive section of the Act states that it is concerned with projects for the development of income and employment opportunities in rural areas and for improving standards of living in those areas.

The program proposed under this section is based on the community development approach. It is a rural community development program. It might even be called a rural regional development program. Local people will have a large part to play. It has been proposed to the provinces that rural development areas be selected—and a number have already been selected—usually of about county size. It is expected, however, that some areas of larger size and some river valley regions will be proposed also. The setting up of rural development committees will be encouraged within these areas. These committees may, in many instances, be made up of representatives of existing organizations—local governments may be involved.

When the plans are approved, the coordinating machinery will be used to focus the programs of government for assistance in rural development, including specifically those under the ARDA legislation and, in addition, those under other federal and provincial legislation such as the Joint Vocational Training program, the Industrial Development programs, and the Credit programs for farm and industry.

o Country Life



## OFFICIALS REVIEW 1962

(From Page 6)

the public we serve have never been better. The Assessment Appeal Board appreciates this opportunity to express its thanks to all municipal officials for their cooperation in the past year and to wish them continued good health and prosperity in 1963.



The coming year will see a new member on the Appeal Board, since other heavy responsibilities have forced Mr. Ian Morrish to relinquish his position as an active member of the Board. However, we greatly appreciate the fact that he will still be available in the capacity of legal consultant. Our new member, Mr. K.J. Spread, is no stranger to the assessing fraternity in Alberta, and in view of the extensive farm land assessment program now under way in the Province we expect Ken to be of great assistance to the Board in carrying out its work.

o E.F. Breach, Chairman, Assessment Appeal Board

## TAX RECOVERY BRANCH

During the past year all phases of work in the Tax Recovery Branch have increased.

In the Special Areas Division the assessment for the carrying capacity of leasehold land was made effective January 1, 1961, and all notices sent and assessment appeals have been dealt with. Collection of crop shares and grazing has been good.

The Tax Recovery lands which are as a general rule sub-marginal lands are selling at a much higher figure than previous years which is primarily due to farmers increasing their livestock herds and the demand for more cultivation areas.



The demand for lots in large urban centres is on the increase but is falling off in the small villages and hamlets.

The number of applications to purchase land under The Farm Purchase Credit Act is comparable to last year and the collection of installments on contracts is satisfactory with very few going into default.

The trend in 1962 was for steady improvement and I see no reason why it should not continue in 1963.

o K.C. Switzer, Director of Tax Recovery

## ACCOUNTS BRANCH

In past years I have commented upon the anticipation with which we were looking forward to the Government's Data Processing Centre.

Motor Vehicle Licensing was converted to data processing first and then on April 1, 1962, payrolls and accounts payable were converted. There is no question that the value of the Data Processing Centre will be more evident as time passes.



It is our intention to program assessment, taxation and lease rental in improvement districts and the Special Areas during 1963 and our hope to convert to the Data Processing Centre on January 1, 1964.

o D.R. Watson,  
Secretary-Accountant

## FIELD SERVICE BRANCH

As in previous years, the Branch is engaged in the work of general assessments in improvement districts, in addition to the usual annual assessments in these areas.

General assessments were completed in I.D.'s 33, 69, 123, 129, 137, 144, 145, 148 and 149, while I.D. 139 is about 60% completed and will be finished early in 1963.

Courts of Revision were held for both annual and general assessments in improvement districts where necessary, a total of 30 hearings with respect to assessment complaints were held by three officers of the Branch.

The twenty-three Farm Purchase Boards in improvement districts had approximately the same level of activity as in the previous year. The Director of Field Service and the resident inspector serve on these Boards as chairman and appraiser-secretary, respectively.

Four inspectors of the Field Service Branch report a moderate increase in equipment licensing and mobile homes revenue.

Advisory Committees in improvement districts continue to increase with establishment of new committees in I.D.'s 108, 124, 131, 138,



139, 146 and 147, bringing the total number to seventeen. Budget meetings with these committees are held as well as public meetings of ratepayers and are attended by the Director of Field Service, the Secretary-Accountant of the Department and the resident inspector.

One new Agricultural Service Board was formed, bringing the total number to 8, comprising an area of 15 improvement districts. The Director of Field Service and the resident inspector serve as members, with the Assistant Director being an alternate member.

The Five Year Program of the Government with respect to recreational facilities' grants and municipal parks' grants in improvement districts is being carried out by members of the Branch, and it is hoped will be completed by the end of 1963.

The foregoing is in addition to the Branch's usual business of annual assessments, hamlet services, industrial assessments, appraisals and valuations for the Public Trustee, Succession Duties Branch and the Tax Recovery Branch.

Members of the Field Staff serve on Health Unit Boards, District Planning Commissions, Interim Development Boards, and our proposed role in development control in improvement districts appears to be getting nearer, and probably will become a reality in 1963.

With respect to industrial development in improvement districts generally, the gas industry continues to develop at a steady pace, moderate oil well drilling programs are evident, with automation of existing fields continuing. With respect to coal, the Hygrade Mine (To Page 8)

## SECRETARY'S CALENDAR



## Municipal District Act

## Every Month

5th-Within 5 days after the end of each month the secretary-treasurer shall prepare a statement of monies received and their disposition, submit to council at next meeting and enter copy in minutes. Sec. 61(1)(v).

Jan. 3 - Council shall appoint an assessor at its first meeting or as soon thereafter as is practicable. Sec. 64(1).

Feb. 1 - Auditor's Financial Statement shall be prepared on or before this date. Sec. 68(1).

Feb. 10 - Secretary-treasurer shall mail a copy of Auditor's Statement to every person whose name appears on the assessment roll. Sec. 68(6).

Feb. 10 - On each Auditor's Statement the secretary-treasurer shall have printed a notice in Form 1 in Schedule A regarding the Annual Meeting. Sec. 68(7), 96(6).

Feb. 16 - Annual Meeting to be held on this day. Sec. 96(6), 102.

Feb. 28 - Auditor shall send notice of arrears to ratepayers. Sec. 67(5).

March 3 - Council shall appoint an Auditor before this date. Sec. 66(1).

## Town and Village Act

## Every Month

15th-Secretary-treasurer shall prepare statement of monies received and their disposition, submit to council at next meeting and enter a copy in the minutes. Sec. 67(r).

Feb. 1 - Auditor's Financial Statement shall be prepared on or before this date. Sec. 76(1).

Feb. 18 - Secretary-treasurer shall publish synopsis of Auditor's report. Sec. 76(5).

Feb. 19 - Secretary-treasurer shall post notices of Annual Meeting. Sec. 125(2).

Feb. 25 - Annual meeting of electors. Sec. 125(1). Submission of reports. Sec. 126(1).

Feb. 28 - Auditor to send notice of arrears to ratepayers. Sec. 74(5):

## Assessment Act, 1960

Feb. 15 - Secretary-treasurer shall prepare assessment roll on or before this date. Sec. 26.

Feb. 15 - In the case of a general assessment, the secretary-treasurer shall post and publish notice of preparation of roll. Sec. 30 and 31.

March 1 - Assessment slips to be mailed not later than this date. Sec. 28.

Appoint a Court of Revision. Sec. 32, 35 and 43.

Advise complainants re Court of Revision date. Sec. 38. ●





**MASTER TROPHY** - Fire departments throughout Alberta compete each year in seven Alberta districts for replicas of The Murray J. Bedard Memorial Shield. Replicas are identical to the Master trophy which hangs in the Fire Commissioner's office except for plaques showing former winners suspended below. Since 1958, shields have been awarded for proficiency in memory of Mr. Bedard who was Deputy Fire Commissioner from 1952 until his death in 1957.

... SEVEN OUT OF 86 TEAMS

**WIN MURRAY BEDARD SHIELDS**

Complete list of winners of The Murray J. Bedard Memorial Shield for 1962 was released recently by Austin Bridges, Alberta Fire Commissioner. During the past summer season competitions were held in seven centres throughout the Province, with a total of 86 teams from 59 communities participating.

Centres sponsoring the events, dates of each competition and fire department teams winning proficiency awards in the form of memorial shields for 1962 are:

Ponoka	July 2	Bowness Fire Department
Coleman	July 2	Red Deer Fire Department
Spirit River	August 1	Beaverlodge Fire Department
Red Deer	August 15	Western Chemicals - Two Hills
Banff	August 18	Lincoln Park Air Station - Calgary
Coaldale	September 8	Warner Fire Department
Olds	September 29	Red Deer Fire Department

**OFFICIALS REVIEW 1962**  
(From Page 7)

at Drumheller closed, but the remaining mines would appear able to continue operations for some years to come under present economic conditions. Lumbering appears to be maintaining its present level, with cement, lime, and electric power industries showing little change.

Agriculturally, the north country continues to develop at a rapid pace, thus creating an assessment problem in this area.

We were busy in 1962 and look forward to an equally busy year in 1963.

o A.R. Isbister,  
Director of Field Service

**ASSESSMENT BRANCH**

With the cooperation of the weatherman in 1962, the Assessment Branch has completed general assessments on behalf of 54 towns and villages, two improvement districts (encompassing the areas of Jasper and Banff National Parks) and the City of Medicine Hat. A general assessment has been commenced in the County of Forty Mile No. 8. Departmental assessors have also completed annual assessments in 180 towns and villages and the Cities of Grande Prairie and Wetaskiwin.

General assessments were prepared at Inuvik and Fort Smith as well as annual assessments at Yellowknife, Hay River and Fort Simpson in the North West Territories. Supervisory assistance has been provided to municipal districts and county assessors with farm land and industrial assessment problems.



In addition to the above the Assessment Branch prepared assessments of all assessable electric power and pipe line installations under the provisions of The Electric Power and Pipe Line Assessment Act as well as assessable installations of the Alberta Government Telephones Commission under the provisions of The Municipal and Provincial Properties Valuation Act.

All in all it has been a busy and successful year and with the same progress in 1963, we anticipate that all urban municipalities in Alberta will be assessed on the basis of the 1959 Assessment Manual by the end of the 1963 assessment year. Several rural municipalities have general assessments underway and as a result, the number of municipalities with assessments on the basis of the old (1955) manual is being reduced annually.

May we take this opportunity to wish a happy and prosperous new year to those whom we have met and contacted in the past and who have so willingly cooperated with the Assessment Branch in its endeavors.

o D.E. Mills,  
Chief Provincial Assessor

**PERSONNEL OFFICE**

As was predicted last year the Personnel Office had another busy year. We have handled 47 appointments and 34 resignations, the total staff at this date being 346. In addition much time has been spent on the completion of forms due to the conversion to the computer and the upward revision of salaries for most employees of the Department.



The year 1963 should see a levelling off particularly since conversion to the computer is almost complete and the proposed staff increase throughout the Department has been kept to a minimum.

o W.H. Kinsman,  
Personnel Officer

**MUNICIPAL INSPECTION BRANCH**

1962 has been an essentially busy year. It has been so much so that for the first time in a number of years inspectors have been unable to complete an inspection of each and every one of the 300 municipalities in the Province. This is partly due to the fact that the checking of the revised form of the financial statements of municipalities progressed much more slowly than usual. There was also the usual compilation for the annual report and some special investigations that had to be made.

The volume of work under the Winter Works Incentive program continues to increase with some 920 applications processed for the 1961-62 season, as compared to 800 the previous year. To date, over 610 applications have been received for the 1962-63 season.



During the year only one new summer village, Ross Haven, was incorporated while two villages, Smoky Lake and Elk Point changed their status to that of a town. One summer village has presented a petition for incorporation as at January 1st, 1963. The status of the New Town of St. Albert was changed during 1962 to that of an ordinary town.

Of special interest is the application of the Town of Devon for an order merging the administration of the town with the administration of the Devon School District No. 4972 in accordance with section 4 of The Municipal and School Administration Act. The order was made effective from January 1st, 1963.

Three new counties, at Two Hills, Camrose and Red Deer, were organized as and from January 1st, 1963, which brought the total to twenty-three counties and reduced the number of municipal districts to twenty-five.

As 1963 has all the appearances of another busy year, again we are relying upon the continued excellent cooperation of the councils and secretaries so that administrative problems may be solved quickly and fairly to the benefit of all concerned.

o Bruce Ramsay,  
Chief Municipal Inspector